MURKANAD-MURIYAD CANAL—FLOOD HAVOCS CAUSED

198. Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government that there is great ruin to the cultivation of Karalom and Kattur padoms on account of the Murkanad-Muriyad Canal as it exists now;

(*b*) will the Government make a thorough enquiry into the matter as early as possible and take necessary action to better their condition?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) The cultivation of the Karlom and Kattur padoms is not in any way affected on account of the Muriyad-Murkanad canal.

(*b*) The matter will be enquired into and suitable action taken, if found necessary.

199. Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government that a few acres of paddy fields in Murkanad, near the Murkanad-Muriyad Canal, has become unfit for cultivation on account of the havocs caused by the Canal:

(*b*) if the answer is in the negative, will the Government enquire in the matter;

(*c*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to state what relief the Government proposes to give to the owners of these lands which have become unfit for cultivation?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) No havoc to cultivation is noted to have been caused by the Murkanad-Muriyad canal. There have been however, some representation about the silting of three Survey numbers near the exit of the Canal.

(*b*) An enquiry will be conducted in the matter.

(*c*) No answer is necessary in view of the answer to question (*a*).

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Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* Will the Hon'ble Member in charge of Public Works be kind enough to make a personal enquiry as to how it (The Murkanad canal) affects the Karlam and Kattur padoms?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I made an inquiry into that matter. I was not able to find out how they are affected by the Murkanad canal.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* Were there not representations from the public to the Public Works Department regarding the havoc done by this canal?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* May I know from the Hon'ble Member in what way is this havoc done *i.e.*, whether it is due to high flood level or any other cause.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* It is not on account of high flood level. Till the time the canal was constructed, the padoms were very fertile. The fertility of the soil is now being taken away by water flowing through this canal. It does not end anywhere. The original idea was to divert it to Kakkathuruthi canal.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* There is no havoc caused by high flood level, because these areas are cultivated. The south west monsoon would not affect the crops because there are no crops there at that time. Then, with regard to loss of fertility in the soil, I think, it is rather intangible, and at present the reasons obscure. Anyhow, I shall ask the Agricultural Department to look into that question.

Mr. K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur):* Will not the floods increase the fertility of the soil?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* That is what I should have thought.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* If Government make an enquiry as to what was the pattam which the ryots used to get before and after the digging of this canal, then the position would be clear.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I shall ask the Agricultural Department to look into the matter.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്. പണിക്കർ: സർ, ഈ തോട് അവിടത്തെ വെള്ളം ഒഴിയുന്നതിനു വേണ്ടി ഉള്ളതാണോ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Egineer):* No.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്. പണിക്കർ: ഈ തോട് ആദ്യം താഴ്ത്തിയതിനേക്കാൾ രണ്ടാമതും താഴ്ത്തിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

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മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. അരവിന്ദാക്ഷമേനോൻ : ഉവ്വ്.

മിസ്റ്റർ പുത്തൂർ അച്യുതമേനോൻ: മുക്കനാട്ട് മുറിയാട്ട് തോട്ട് ഇപ്പോൾ ഒരുമാതിരി നികന്നാണ് കിടക്കുന്നതു്.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: I do not think so; not appreciably.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ : ഈ തോട്ടിൽക്കൂടി വളരെ ശക്തിയോടെ ഒഴുകുന്ന വെള്ളം അവിടെയുള്ള നിലങ്ങളിലെ സിൽറ്റ് മുഴുവൻകഴുകി പോകുവാൻ ഇടയുള്ളതാണെന്നും തൻമൂലം നിലങ്ങൾക്കു ശോഷമാകുന്നുവെന്നും പൊറത്തുശ്ശേരി, കാറളം, കാട്ടൂർ, ഈ ദേശവാസികൾ ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽ അപേക്ഷ ബോധിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: There is no such effect, because the velocity of water in the kayal is very small. On account of its large cross section, and the consequent low velocity of water, any movement of silt should be very very small.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ഒരു surplus sluice എങ്കിലും അവിടെ കെട്ടിയാൽ അതു രക്ഷയായിരിക്കുമെന്നും ആ നാട്ടുകാർ അപേക്ഷ ബോധിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: I cannot answer that question. I do not know what the hon'ble member exactly means by the term 'surplus sluice'. This is a flood diversion canal and if you make any obstruction to the canal, the purpose of the canal will not be served.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ദയവുചെയ്ത് ആ തോട് കാക്കത്തുരുത്തിയിലേക്കു തുറന്നുവിടുന്നതുവരെ ആ തോട്ടിൽ ഒരു സർപ്ലസ് സ്ലൂസ് കെട്ടി മുക്കനാട്ട്, കാറളം, കാട്ടൂർ, പൊറത്തിശ്ശേരി ഈ നാട്ടുകാരെ രക്ഷിക്കുവാൻ സാധിക്കുമോ ?

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur)*: It is a sort of help to the flood areas; but it is detrimental to the Karlam and Kattur padoms.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: Any work of this magnitude cannot be an unmixed blessing. But the benefits derived from this work far counter-balance the small disabilities that might be caused.

മിസ്റ്റർ പുത്തൂർ അച്യുതമേനോൻ: അതു് കാക്കത്തുരുത്തിയിലേക്കു വിടുമ്പോൾ ആക്ഷേപമില്ലാതാകുകയില്ലേ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: That will be investigated.

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